

86 - 1344

No. \_\_\_\_\_



IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1986

—◆—  
AHMED SROUR,

*Petitioner,*

—v.—

THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

*Respondent.*

**PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE  
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT**

DAVID SETH MICHAELS  
Route 203 at Beale Road  
Spencertown, New York 12165  
(518) 392-9150

*Attorney for Petitioner*

95P0



### Question Presented

Whether it was error to dismiss the complaint of a third country national alleging a breach of an employment contract by a foreign state, under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, 18 U.S.C. Section 1602, et seq., on the ground that the employee had failed to establish that his action was based upon "commercial activity" by the foreign state, when it was the foreign state's obligation to produce evidence of immunity and no such evidence was produced.

### Parties

Ahmed Srour and The United Arab Emirates.





## Table of Contents

Question Presented.....	1
Parties.....	1
Table of Contents.....	3
Table of Cases and Other Authorities.....	4
Opinions Below.....	6
Jurisdictional Statement.....	7
Statutes Involved.....	7
Statement of the Case.....	8
Reasons for Granting the Writ	
I. IT WAS ERROR TO DISMISS THE COMPLAINT OF A THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL ALLEGING A BREACH OF AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT BY A FOREIGN STATE, UNDER THE FOREIGN SOVEREIGN IMMUNITIES ACT, 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1602, <u>ET SEQ.</u> , ON THE GROUND THAT THE EMPLOYEE HAD FAILED TO ESTABLISH THAT HIS ACTION WAS BASED UPON "COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY" BY THE FOREIGN STATE, WHEN IT WAS THE FOREIGN STATE'S OBLIGATION TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE OF IMMUNITY AND NO SUCH EVIDENCE WAS PRODUCED.....	20
Conclusion.....	30

## APPENDIX

- A. Order of the United States  
Court of Appeals for the  
Second Circuit affirming the

judgment of the district court  
in Ahmed Srour v. The United  
Arab Emirates, No. 86-7662.....1a

- B. Memorandum and Order of the  
United States District Court  
granting defendant's motion  
and dismissing the complaint  
in Ahmed Srour v. The United  
Arab Emirates, 86 Civ.  
3319(WK) .....4a
- C. Verified.Complaint.....9a
- D. Motion and Affirmation of Omar  
Z. Ghobashy.....28a
- E. Affirmation of Omar Z.  
Ghobashy.....35a
- F. Affirmation and Memorandum  
in Response of Michele  
Forzley.....37a
- G. Reply Affirmation of Omar Z.  
Ghobashy.....56a

#### Table of Cases

- Alberti v. Empresa Nicaraguense  
De La Carne, 705 F.2d 150 (7th  
Cir. 1983).....21
- Arango v. Guzman Travel Advisors  
Corp., 621 F.2d 1371  
(5th Cir. 1980).....21
- Behring International, Inc. v.  
Imperial Iranian Air Force,  
475 F.Supp 396 (D.N.J. 1979).....21
- Kamen v. A.T.&T. Communications,  
Inc., 791 F.2d 1006 (2d  
Cir. 1986).....28

<u>Matter of Sedco, Inc., 543 F.Supp</u> 561 (S.D.Tex. 1982).....	21
<u>Texas Trading v. Federal Republic of</u> <u>Nigeria, 647 F.2d 300</u> (2d Cir. 1981).....	23,27
<u>Tigchon v. Island of Jamaica, 591</u> F.Supp 765 (W.D.Mich. 1984).....	21
<u>Transamerican S.S. Corp. v. Somali</u> <u>Democratic Republic, 767 F.2d</u> 998 (D.C.Cir. 1985).....	21
<u>Van Dardel v. Union of Soviet</u> <u>Socialist Republics, 623 F.Supp</u> 246 (D.D.C. 1985).....	21
<u>Vencendor Ocenica Navigacion v.</u> <u>Compagnie Nation, 730 F.2d 195</u> (5th Cir. 1984).....	21
<u>Verlinden B.V. v. Central Bank of</u> <u>Nigeria, 461 U.S. 480 (1983)....</u>	22
<u>Williams v. Kuhlman, 722 F.2d</u> 1048 (2d Cir. 1983).....	28

#### Other Authorities

H.Rep. No. 94-1487, 94th Cong.2d Sess. (1976), 1976 U.S.Code Cong. & Ad.News 6604.....	passim
Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, 28 U.S.C. Sections 1602, <u>et</u> <u>seq</u> .....	passim

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF  
THE UNITED STATES AND THE ASSOCIATE  
JUSTICES OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME  
COURT.

Petitioner Ahmed Srour  
respectfully prays that a writ of  
certiorari issue to review the judgment  
of the United States Court of Appeals for  
the Second Circuit which affirmed a  
decision of the United States District  
Court for the Southern District of New  
York, dismissing petitioner's complaint  
under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities  
Act, 28 U.S.C. Section 1602, et seq.

Opinions Below

The summary judgment of the  
United States Court of Appeals for the  
Second Circuit was rendered on November  
21, 1986. A copy of the judgment is  
annexed at Appendix 1. The memorandum  
opinion of the United States District  
Court for the Southern District of New

York was rendered on July 29, 1986. A copy of the memorandum is annexed at Appendix 4. Neither opinion has been reported.

### Jurisdictional Statement

The judgment of the Court of Appeals was entered on Novmber 21, 1986. A copy of the judgment is annexed at Appendix 1.

The Court's jurisdiction is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1254(1).

### Statutes Involved

Title 28, United States Code, Section 1603. Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter --...

(d) A "commercial activity" means either a regular course of commercial conduct or a particular commercial transaction or act. The commercial character of an activity shall be determined by reference to the nature of the course of conductor particular transaction or act, rather than by reference to its purpose.

Title 28, United States Code, Section 1604. Immunity of a foreign state from jurisdiction

Subject to existing international agreements to which the United States is a party at the time of enactment of this Act (enacted Oct. 21, 1976) a foreign state shall be immune from the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States and of all the States except as provided in sections 1605 to 1607 of this chapter.

Title 28, United States Code, Section 1605. General exceptions to the jurisdictional immunity of a foreign state

(a) A foreign state shall not be immune from the jurisdiction of the United States or of the States in any case-- ...

(2) in which the action is based upon a commercial activity carried on in the United States by the foreign state; or upon an act performed in the United States in connection with a commercial activity of the foreign state elsewhere; or upon an act outside the territory of the United States in connection with a commercial activity of the foreign state elsewhere and that act causes a direct effect in the United States; ...

#### Statement of the Case

Petitioner is a legal resident of the United States of Lebanese

nationality (A.25) who was employed by the United Arab Emirates (hereinafter "Respondent") at its Mission in New York City for four and one half years until his employment was terminated in July, 1985. Petitioner was employed, pursuant to a written contract of employment with respondent, dated January 1, 1984, as a "researcher" (A.25). This contract specifically incorporated the provisions of respondent's "Local Employees System" (A.26), which applied solely to administrative employees (translators and clerks), general service employees (drivers, guards, cooks), and additional administrative employees like petitioner, who were appointed by special contracts. The "Local Employees System" provided that no position could be transferred without the prior approval of the Minister of Foreign Affairs (A.52-54).

On May 29, 1985, without notice

and without approval of the Minister of Foreign Affairs (A.13), petitioner was transferred from his "researcher" position to another position, for which petitioner had no training, as assistant to the head of the Economic and Social Department of the Mission (A.14). Thereafter, petitioner was terminated on July 11, 1985 (A.14, 55).

On April 25, 1986, petitioner filed the instant action against respondent. Alleging jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York under 28 U.S.C. Section 1330, petitioner, describing his employment as that of "researcher" and "political adviser," claimed, inter alia, that respondent had breached the contract of employment. The complaint, however, did not provide a description of the specific services petitioner provided pursuant to the



contract. Rather, addressing the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (hereinafter, "FSIA"), 28 U.S.C. Sections 1602, et seq., petitioner's complaint simply alleged that the lawsuit was "based upon a commercial activity performed in the United States in New York City" (A.9). Thereafter, the summons and complaint were served upon the Foreign Minister of respondent in Abu Dabi by the Clerk of the United States District Court.

On June 25, 1986, respondent filed in lieu of an answer a motion for dismissal of the complaint based upon FSIA and the Diplomatic Immunity Act. The motion, which did not reveal the portion of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure under which it was made, was accompanied solely by an attorney's affirmation and a memorandum of law. No affidavit or other document purporting to be made on personal knowledge was

submitted in support of the motion. Instead, the affirmation claimed among other things that the action was "barred" by FSIA because it was "not within the exceptions listed in the Act regarding commercial activities" (A.32). With regard to this claim, the affirmation stated only the following:

A U.N. Mission is specifically and definitely (sic.) considered by the courts to be a diplomatic entity exempted from suit in U.S.A. The State of U.A.E. by conducting diplomatic activities by a Mission to U.N. is not engaged in commercial activities. Thus this action under FSIA is not maintainable and should be dismissed. (A.32).

Subsequently, on July 9, 1986, respondent filed an additional affirmation which claimed that the United States Department of State would "communicate directly with the Court" and suggest dismissal on grounds including the "interest of diplomatic relations" (A.35). The record

of this case, however, discloses no such communication to the Court. Instead, a letter from the Department of State was sent to the Clerk of the Court incorrectly claiming that service of process was not properly conducted.

In response to respondent's arguments, petitioner's attorney filed an "Affirmation and Memorandum in Response," which, advancing solely legal arguments and making no factual presentation, argued that the commercial activity underlying the case was the hiring, employing, and wrongful firing of petitioner (A.38).

Finally, respondent filed a reply affirmation (A.56) which purported to argue from various documents that "plaintiff is a member of U.A.E. Mission to U.N." (A.59) and that his was "an action by a diplomat against his Head of Mission to U.N. on a dispute relating to

his assignment" (A.61). Such an action, it was claimed, could not be maintained because of diplomatic and sovereign immunity and lack of jurisdiction (A.61). Annexed to the motion were a number of documents which included petitioner's name as a person attending or participating in various United Nations activities, but no document from a person with personal knowledge was provided to the District Court which described the nature of the services performed pursuant to petitioner's contract, and, significantly, none of the documents purported to show that petitioner was accredited as a diplomat.

On July 29, 1986, Judge Knapp granted the motion to dismiss. Noting that petitioner had alleged in his complaint that he had been employed as a "researcher" and "political adviser," Judge Knapp concluded that petitioner's

argument about the scope of "commercial activity" under 28 U.S.C. Section 1603(d) was "overly broad" (A.6). Although he had before him absolutely nothing which described on the basis of first hand knowledge petitioner's employment and the services for which he had been hired, Judge Knapp, in essence, determined that no material issue of fact existed about petitioner's employment, and he granted summary judgment for respondent. The Court wrote:

Plaintiff's argument appears to be an overly broad construction of the Court of Appeals' formulation in Texas Trading v. Federal Republic of Nigeria (2d Cir. 1981) 647 F.2d 300 where it stated, "if the activity is one in which a private person could engage, it is not entitled to immunity." The "activity" here in question is more than just employment per se. It encompasses the specific type of employment in which plaintiff was engaged. See Arango v. Guzman Travel Advisors Corp. (5th Cir. 1980) 621 F.2d 1371, 1379 ("The focus of the exception to immunity recognized in 1605(a)(2)... is

on whether the particular conduct giving rise to the claim in question actually constitutes or is in connection with commercial activity.")

It is certainly possible for a foreign state to engage in employment contracts in this country which are both commercial and non-commercial in nature. Cf. Truck v. Pan American Health Organization (D.C.Cir. 1981) 668 F.2d 547 (claim arising from international health organization's supervision of its civil service personnel not commercial in nature.). We think it obvious that employment as a military attache at a diplomatic Mission would not be considered commercial, while employment as a stockbroker to invest for profit the funds of a foreign state in the New York Stock Exchange would be commercial. Likewise, plaintiff's work as a researcher and political adviser at defendant's Mission is not a commercial activity, but an essentially political form of employment peculiar to governments and therefore entitled to immunity. (A.7-8; emphasis added).

Accordingly, purporting to determine the "essence" of petitioner's employment although that had never been described in

papers before the District Court, Judge Knapp dismissed the complaint.

On appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, petitioner argued both that Judge Knapp had determined the "facts" of the case without resort to an appropriate inquiry about petitioner's employment and that nothing had been presented by respondent to demonstrate that FSIA barred petitioner's suit. Accordingly, petitioner requested a remand for an appropriate factual development of the dismissal motion.

On November 21, 1986, a panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (Lumbard, Van Graafeiland, and Pierce, C.JJ.) affirmed in a summary order. The Court of Appeals did not discuss the lack of factual submissions to support summary judgment and upheld Judge Knapp's views both that

it was petitioner's obligation to establish that the case involved commercial activity and that the record supported a determination that petitioner's employment was not "commercial":

Appellant alleges that this case falls within the commercial activity exception and that the district court erroneously focused on the activities of the plaintiff rather than considering whether the activities of the sovereign constituted commercial activities. We find this argument to be without merit. Judge Knapp clearly stated in his opinion that "the sole exception with which we must concern ourselves on this motion is whether defendant's act in employing plaintiff was 'a commercial activity.'" Moreover, while appellant characterizes appellee's acts as merely the hiring and firing of an employee, we note that appellant was employed by the UAE Mission to the United Nations to handle political advisory and research functions. Thus, the evident political nature of the employment mandates a finding that appellant's activity was not within the "commercial activity" exception to



sovereign immunity.

We have considered each of  
appellant's other claims and  
find them to be without merit.  
(A.2-3; Emphasis added.)

## Reasons for Granting the Writ

- I. IT WAS ERROR TO DISMISS THE COMPLAINT OF A THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL ALLEGING A BREACH OF AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT BY A FOREIGN STATE, UNDER THE FOREIGN SOVEREIGN IMMUNITIES ACT, 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1602, ET SEQ., ON THE GROUND THAT THE EMPLOYEE HAD FAILED TO ESTABLISH THAT HIS ACTION WAS BASED UPON "COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY" BY THE FOREIGN STATE, WHEN IT WAS THE FOREIGN STATE'S OBLIGATION TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE OF IMMUNITY AND NO SUCH EVIDENCE WAS PRODUCED.

Because the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit is in direct conflict with decisions of other Courts of Appeals and directly contravenes FSIA, certiorari should be granted. The decision of the Second Circuit directly conflicts with decisions in other circuits by incorrectly placing the burden of demonstrating lack of immunity under FSIA on petitioner. Other Courts of Appeals have consistently held that the burden of demonstrating immunity under FSIA is on

the foreign nation claiming it. Arango v. Guzman Travel Advisors Corp., 621 F.2d 1371, 1378 (5th Cir. 1980), Transamerican S.S. Corp. v. Somali Democratic Republic, 767 F.2d 998, 1002 (D.C.Cir. 1985), Vencendora Ocenica Navigacion v. Compagnie Nation, 730 F.2d 195, 199 (5th Cir. 1984), Alberti v. Empresa Nicaraguense De La Carne, 705 F.2d 150, 253 (7th Cir. 1983), Tigchon v. Island of Jamaica, 591 F.Supp 765, 766 (W.D.Mich. 1984), Van Dardel v. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, 623 F.Supp 246, 251 (D.D.C. 1985), Behring International, Inc. v. Imperial Iranian Air Force, 475 F.Supp 396, 405 n.9 (D.N.J. 1979), Matter of Sedco, Inc., 543 F.Supp 561, 564 (S.D.Tex. 1982). Accord, H.Rep. No. 94-1487, 94th Cong.2d Sess. (1976), p. 17, reprinted in 1976 U.S.Code Cong.& Ad.News, 6604, 6616 (hereinafter "H.Rep") ("(S)ince sovereign immunity is

an affirmative defense which must be specially pleaded, the burden will remain on the foreign state to produce evidence in support of its claim of immunity."). In its ruling, placing the burden of proof on petitioner, the Second Circuit's decision repudiated the very purpose for which FSIA was enacted (see 28 U.S.C. Section 1602, limiting immunity to non-commercial activities) and imposed a blanket sovereign immunity which has not been the law since 1952 (see H.Rep, 6613).

The FSIA, 28 U.S.C. Section 1602, et seq., adopts a restrictive view of foreign sovereign immunity and grants immunity for "governmental" acts of a foreign state. The statute, however, denies immunity for acts of a "private" nature. It is this view of immunity that translates into the "commercial activity" exceptions in FSIA. See, Verlinden B.V.

v. Central Bank of Nigeria, 461 U.S. 480, 488-489 (1983); 28 U.S.C. Section 1602 ("(S)tates are not immune from the jurisdiction of foreign courts insofar as their commercial activities are concerned..."). Title 28, U.S.C. 1603(d) defines "commercial acitivity" as "either a regular course of commercial conduct or a particular commercial transaction or act," and states:

The commercial character of an activity shall be determined by reference to the nature of the course of conduct or particular transaction or act, rather than by reference to its purpose.

While no provision of the act defines "commercial" (see, Texas Trading v. Federal Republic of Nigeria, 647 F.2d 300, 308 (2d Cir. 1981)), the legislative history determines the appropriate result in the instant case when it states:

Also public or governmental and not commercial in nature, would be the employment of diplomatic, civil service, or

military personnel, but not the employment of American citizens or third country nationals by the foreign state in the United States.

The courts have a great deal of latitude in determining what is a "commercial activity" for purposes of this bill. It has seemed unwise to attempt an excessively precise definition of this term, even if that were practicable. Activities such as a foreign government's sale of a service or a product, its leasing of property, its borrowing of money, its employment or engagement of laborers, clerical staff or public relations or marketing agents, or its investment in a security of an American corporation, would be among those included within the definition. H.Rep, 6615 (Emphasis added.)

Clearly, then, the question in the instant case for the District Court on respondent's motion to dismiss was whether the respondent had borne the burden of demonstrating that even though petitioner was a "third country national (employed) by the foreign state in the United States" in what appeared from the

verified complaint to be the clerical or administrative position of "researcher" and "political adviser", the nature of petitioner's employment was nevertheless not "commercial activity."

To carry this burden respondent submitted nothing to the District Court. Respondent's initial affirmation merely made arguments of law, the supplementary affirmation claimed that there would be communication from the State Department, and the reply affirmation presented documents which showed attendance at meetings by petitioner but did not in any respect disclose the nature of his employment. Notwithstanding this obvious failure to present proof capable of sustaining respondent's burden, the District Court dismissed the complaint. And the dismissal was explicit in its focus on petitioner's obligation to demonstrate "commercial activity" in his

employment. Because of the lack of submissions before the Court, the decision could not discuss respondent's contentions about the nature of petitioner's employment or respondent's demonstration of its non-commercial nature. To the contrary, the decision stated that petitioner's argument that his employment was a "commercial activity" was "overly broad" (A.6). And the decision went on to hypothecate-- nothing appears in the record to support this view-- that "plaintiff's work as a researcher and political adviser at defendant's Mission is not a commercial activity, but an essentially political form of employment peculiar to governments" (A.8; emphasis added). Because the record in this case does not even contain petitioner's job description, any conclusion about the political essence of his employment was



based on sheer surmise. Indeed, because the legislative history explained that a third country national in the United States providing foreign governments with public relations, marketing, or investment assistance was clearly engaged in "commercial activity", providing consulting services, research, and analysis of political developments to a small country-- respondent's total population is approximately 300,000-- which would pay a third country national for such services could be no less commercial.

Notwithstanding the errors that led to the dismissal of petitioner's complaint, and the Second Circuit's previous statement that "(t)he determination of whether particular behavior is 'commercial' is perhaps the most important decision a court faces in an FSIA suit" (Texas Trading v. Federal

Republic of Nigeria, 647 F.2d at 308), the Second Circuit affirmed. It, too, placed the burden of establishing commercial activity on petitioner. The Second Circuit, thus, discussed petitioner's "allegation that the case falls within the commercial activity exception", petitioner's characterization of respondent's act in employing him, and petitioner's supposed activities of employment. And despite its own previous decisions which reversed jurisdictional dismissals when the record lacked affidavits made on personal knowledge to demonstrate lack of jurisdiction (see, e.g., Kamen v. A.T.&T. Communications, Inc., 791 F.2d 1006, 1011 (2d Cir. 1986)), and its own previous decisions which reversed the same District Judge when he had previously dismissed without permitting development of the record (Williams v. Kuhlman, 722 F.2d 1048,

1050-1051 (2d Cir. 1983)), the Second Circuit not only upheld the instant dismissal but expanded the District Court's surmise about petitioner's employment:

(W)e note that appellant was employed by the UAE Mission to the United Nations to handle political advisory and research functions. Thus, the evident political nature of the employment mandates a finding that appellant's activity was not within the "commercial activity" exception to sovereign immunity. (A.2-3; Emphasis added).

This affirmance clearly misplaced the burden in FSIA cases, conflicted with decisions in other circuits, and vitiated the limitations of immunity FSIA was intended to provide. Accordingly, the Court should grant certiorari, vacate the Second Circuit's decision, and remand this case to the District Court with instructions to reinstate the complaint and deny the motion to dismiss.

Conclusion

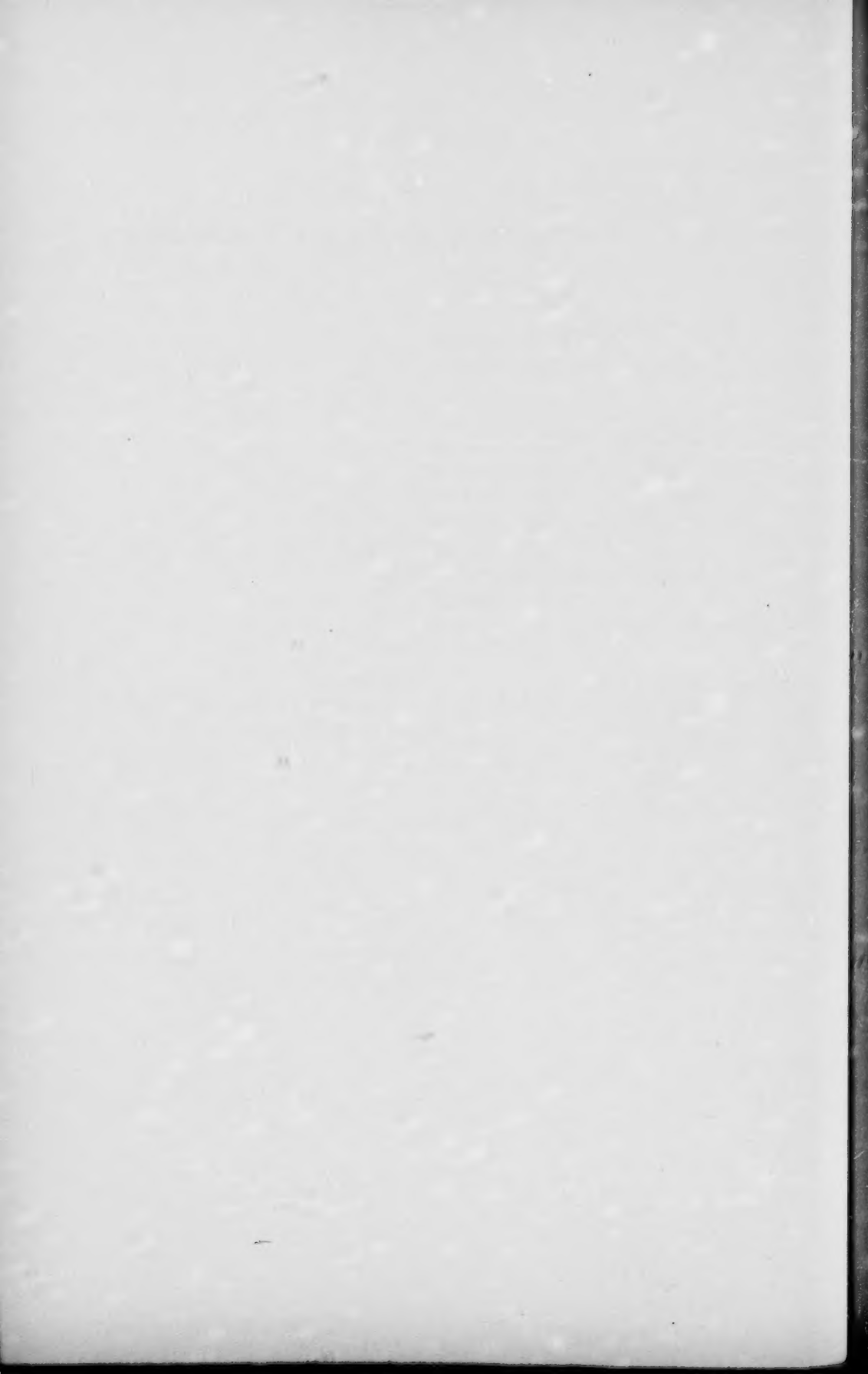
For the foregoing reasons,  
certiorari should be granted.

Respectfully  
submitted,

DAVID SETH MICHAELS  
Attorney for  
Petitioner  
Route 203 at Beale  
Road  
Spencertown, New York  
12165  
Tel.: (518) 392-9150

Dated: Spencertown, New York  
February 9, 1987





Appendix A

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

At a stated term of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, held in the United States Courthouse in the City of New York on the 21st day of November, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six.

PRESENT:

HON. J. EDWARD LUMBARD  
HON. ELLSWORTH A. VAN GRAAFEILAND  
HON. LAWRENCE W. PIERCE,  
Circuit Judges,

-----  
AHMED SROUR,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

v.

THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

ORDER

86-7662

Defendant-Appellee.

-----

Appeal from an order of dismissal of appellant's complaint in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (Knapp, J.).

Appellant is a foreign national who was employed by appellee The United Arab Emirates ("UAE") as a researcher and political advisor for several years. He





sovereign immunity.

We have considered each of appellant's other claims and find them to be without merit.

We affirm the judgment of the district court.

                    /s/                      
HON. J. EDWARD LUMBARD

                    /s/                      
HON. ELLSWORTH A. VAN GRAAFEILAND

                    /s/                      
HON. LAWRENCE W. PIERCE

Circuit Judges.

Appendix B

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X

AHMED SROUR,

Plaintiff,

MEMORANDUM & ORDER

- against -

86 Civ. 3319 (WK)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

Defendant.

-----X

WHITMAN KNAPP, D. J.

Plaintiff Ahmed Srouer brings this action against defendant United Arab Emirates alleging wrongful discharge from his employment with defendant's Mission in New York City. Defendant moves to dismiss on the ground, among others, of immunity under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976, 28 U.S.C. Section 1602 et seq. (1986). For reasons which follow we grant defendant's motion and dismiss the complaint.

The complaint alleges that

plaintiff occupied the position of researcher and "political adviser" with defendant's Mission and that he was wrongfully discharged (complaint at paragraph 6).

The Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act makes a foreign state immune from suit in a United States Court, with certain enumerated exceptions. The sole exception with which we must concern ourselves on this motion is whether defendant's act in employing plaintiff was "a commercial activity." 28 U.S.C. Sections 1630(d), 1605(a)(2). The statute defines "a commercial activity" as follows, 28 U.S.C. Section 1603(d):

a commercial activity means either a regular course of commercial conduct or a particular commercial transaction or act. The commercial character of an activity shall be determined by reference to the nature of the course of conduct or particular transaction or act, rather than

by reference to its purpose.

Plaintiff argues that the act of employing an individual is per se commercial since that act can be performed by private parties as well as governments. He contends that only activities whose performance is exclusively within the power of a state are protected by immunity.

Plaintiff's argument appears to be an overly broad construction of the Court of Appeals' formulation in Texas Trading v. Federal Republic of Nigeria (2d Cir. 1981) 647 F.2d 300 where it stated, "if the activity is one in which a private person could engage, it is not entitled to immunity." The "activity" here in question is more than just employment per se. It encompasses the specific type of employment in which plaintiff was engaged. See Arango v. Guzman Travel Advisors Corp. (5th Cir.

1980) 621 F.2d 1371, 1379 ("The focus of the exception to immunity recognized in 1605(a)(2) ... is on whether the particular conduct giving rise to the claim in question actually constitutes or is in connection with commercial activity.")

It is certainly possible for a foreign state to engage in employment contracts in this country which are both commercial and non-commercial in nature. Cf. Truck v. Pan American Health Organization (D.C. Cir. 1981) 668 F.2d 547 (claim arising from international health organization's supervision of its civil service personnel not commercial in nature.). We think it obvious that employment as a military attache at a diplomatic Mission would not be considered commercial, while employment as a stockbroker to invest for profit the funds of a foreign state in the New York

Stock Exchange would be commercial. Likewise, plaintiff's work as a researcher and political adviser at defendant's Mission is not a commercial activity, but an essentially political form of employment peculiar to governments and therefore entitled to immunity.

Since we find that plaintiff's employment was not commercial in nature and that defendant is immune from this lawsuit, we grant defendant's motion and dismiss the complaint.

SO ORDERED.

DATED: New York, New York  
July 29, 1986

/s/  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WHITMAN KNAPP,  
U.S.D.J.

Appendix C

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X

AHMED SROUR,

Plaintiff,

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

- against -

86 Civ. 3319 (WK)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

Defendant.

-----X

Now comes the Plaintiff by his attorney, Michele Forzley, Esq., and says for his complaint as follows:

1. Jurisdiction of this action is based upon 28 U.S.C.S.1330.

2. Defendant, United Arab Emirates (hereafter UAE) at all times mentioned herein is a foreign sovereign state, which maintains an office and a Mission at 747 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10017.

3. Plaintiff Ahmed Srouer is a resident of the State of New York and of

the United States.

4. That this action is based upon a commercial activity performed in the United States in New York City and upon the tortious acts of and omissions of officials and employees done within the scope of their employ and office in New York City and elsewhere.

5. Plaintiff began his employ pursuant to an oral agreement in March 1981 at the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates as a local employee without a special contract in the capacity of political advisor.

6. Plaintiff was promoted to the grade of "Researcher", in the capacity of political advisor on January 1, 1984, pursuant to a Special Contract (hereafter Special Contract) of employment, and continued to function as a political advisor until July 11, 1985, when defendant terminated his employment.



A copy of the Special Contract is attached as Exhibit A. At the time of his termination, he was 44 years old and had worked for Defendant for four and one half years with approximately two weeks break in service in the summer of 1984 for vacation only.

7. The Special Contract was entered into in New York City on or about January 1, 1984 and was delivered to Plaintiff personally in New York City.

8. The Special Contract was executed pursuant to the provisions of the Local Employees Act of 1983 of the United Arab Emirates and accordingly Plaintiff was promoted to the grade of Researcher with the duties and functions of political advisor because and only after his full personal data, educational degrees and work experience had been substantiated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the Permanent Mission in New

York and the Ministry was fully aware of the full description of the duties Plaintiff would undertake and the reasons for employing him under a Special Contract.

9. That the Special Contract provided for Plaintiff to perform the duties of political advisor for the State of the United Arab Emirates at their local office, the Permanent Mission located in New York City. Said Contract was renewable annually, with the last renewal occurring January 1, 1985.

10. That the Special Contract provided for the hiring of Plaintiff on an annual basis at a rate of \$2,000.00 per month in compensation, forty five days vacation pay and for severance pay of one month's pay per year of work.

11. That Plaintiff performed all required services and fulfilled all conditions existing under the Special

Contract satisfactorily to Defendant at all times herein mentioned and has at all times been ready, willing and able to perform and has offered to perform all of the conditions and requirements of the Special Contract.

12. That Plaintiff performed services for the full year of 1984 and up to and including the month of July 1985 as a political advisor.

13. Plaintiff took no vacation time in 1985.

14. That on or about May 29, 1985, without the agreement of Plaintiff, nor notice to him, Defendant unilaterally changed both Plaintiff's job title and job description to one for which Plaintiff had not contracted to perform and one for which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had not been notified nor approved of, in violation of the Local Employees Act and in breach of the

Special Contract. The unilateral change was done by the issuance by the Permanent Mission of a statement and flow chart changing Plaintiff's job from political advisor to assistant to the head of the Economic and Social Department of the Mission. Plaintiff had no experience nor education in economics or social matters.

15. That because Plaintiff could not perform the new duties, he attempted to resolve the obvious problem amicably by communicating to the Ambassador and the Charge d'Affairs in writing.

16. Despite these efforts Plaintiff was wrongfully terminated from his duties on or about July 11, 1985 without any good cause and without any misconduct. The termination was wrongful and in breach of the Special Contract in that performance by Plaintiff was wholly satisfactory. Since the date of

termination, Defendant has failed and refused to permit Plaintiff to perform under the aforesaid Special Contract.

17. That therefore, Defendant breached the Contract.

18. As a result thereof, Plaintiff has suffered substantial loss of profits and other benefits.

19. Wherefore, Plaintiff demands judgment in the amount of \$21,000.00, plus interest, the costs and legal fees of his proceeding.

AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

20. Plaintiff repeats and realleges paragraph 1-19 herein.

21. As a proximate result of Defendant's termination of Plaintiff as an employee and in discharging Plaintiff from his employment, Plaintiff's reputation as a faithful and diligent representative in the diplomatic

community has been damaged; and it has become impossible for him to obtain employment with another Mission and/or Sovereign in a position comparable with the position Plaintiff held at the time of his termination.

22. As a result of which Plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$2,000,000.00.

AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

23. Plaintiff repeats and realleges paragraphs 1-22 herein.

24. Plaintiff relied upon the representations of the State of the United Arab Emirates in accepting employment pursuant to the Special Contract, that in approximately one year that Plaintiff would be promoted to the grade of Advisor pursuant to a Foreign Contract.

25. An advisor with a Foreign

Contract receives salary and benefits in excess of \$250,000.00 per year.

26. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of the United Arab Emirates represented that pursuant to Circular 103 of 1983, that although Defendant desired to employ Plaintiff with the grade of Advisor, that it could not do so due to current financial restraints and that it anticipated doing so in about a year.

27. As a result of the wrongful termination and breach of the Special Contract, Plaintiff was damaged in the sum of \$5,000,000.

AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

28. Plaintiff repeats and realleges all of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-27.

29. Said conduct of Defendant was wilful, malicious and oppressive and

constitutes a fraud on the public, as well as imposing great emotional distress upon Plaintiff constituting the tort of outrage for which Defendant is responsible to Plaintiff for punitive damages.

30. As a result of Defendants wrongful termination of Plaintiff and breach of the Special Contract,, Plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain substantial losses in earnings, and other employment benefits and has suffered and continues to suffer humiliation, mental and physical pain, and anguish, and has been ostracized from the diplomatic community all to his damage in a sum exceeding \$2,000,000.00 or more.

AS AND FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

31. Plaintiff repeats and realleges paragraphs 1-30 herein.



32. Plaintiff was hired and promoted to the grade of Researcher based upon his education, experience and knowledge as a political advisor which position and description of duties were specifically approved by the Defendant pursuant to the requirements of the Local Employees Act.

33. The conduct of Defendant in unilaterally changing Plaintiff's job function and thus requiring Plaintiff to engage in the performance of services which were not within his experience or education, nor job description, nor Special Contract, in order to continue his employment relationship with Defendant and Defendant's termination of Plaintiff's employment relationship constituted a breach of the covenant of good faith and was oppressive, malicious and fraudulent and justifies the imposition of an award of punitive

damages against Defendant in favor of Plaintiff.

34. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for punitive damages in the amount of \$9,000,000.00.

Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for judgment in its favor as follows:

1. on Plaintiff's first cause of action \$21,000.00, plus legal fees, interest and the costs of this proceeding,

2. on Plaintiff's second cause of action \$2,000,000.00,

3. on Plaintiff's third cause of action \$5,000,000.00,

4. on Plaintiff's fourth cause of action \$2,000,000.00,

5. on Plaintiff's fifth cause of action \$9,000,000.00,

6. and for such other and further relief as to this Court seems

just.

Respectfully,

/s/

Michele Forzley  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
125 Cedar Street  
New York, New York 10006  
U.S.A.  
(212) 406-4973

Dated April 14, 1986

# VERIFICATION

I, Ahmed Srour, the Plaintiff in the above captioned matter, do hereby state, that I have read the contents of the summons, the complaint and the notice of suit, and say that the contents are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

-                    /s/  
\_\_\_\_\_  
AHMED SROUR

On the 16th day of April, 1986, before me came Ahmed Srour to me known to be the individual who signed this verification.

                  /s/  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

EXHIBIT "A"

STATE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
(Personnel Dept.)

No. 7/6/6 --1041  
Date: 11/29/1983

To the Permanent Mission of the  
state of the United Arab Emirates/New  
York.

Peace upon you and God's mercy  
and blessings.

In reference to your letter No.  
1036/83 dated 10/10/1983, regarding Mr.  
Ahmed Srour.

We enclose herewith, the  
contractual agreement which will be  
concluded with him as of 1/1/84. Please  
type it on the Mission's official  
stationary, sign it and return to us the  
original and two copies along with the  
decision of terminating his service in  
accordance with Item three in the  
agreement.

It is requested that you do  
what is necessary to relay to us. Please  
do the necessary action and acknowledge.

Yours truly,

Signed by the Under-Secretary  
of the Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs

Copies to:-

- Personnel file
- Mission file
- General File
- Out-going file Secretarial

IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE MERCIFUL  
AND THE COMPASSIONATE

STATE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
FOREIGN MINISTRY

CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH A  
LOCAL EMPLOYEE AT A  
REPRESENTATIVE MISSION

On Saturday, 12/31/1983, the  
Permanent Mission of the State of the  
United Arab Emirates (New York) by its  
representative, the permanent  
representative of the State of the United  
Arab Emirates, as party one and Mr. Ahmed  
Srour, of Lebanese nationality, as party  
two, agreed on the following:

Item one:

Party one agrees to appoint party two in  
a local job (Researcher with the  
permanent Mission of the State of the  
United Arab Emirates (New York) for a  
monthly salary of \$2000 (Two Thousand  
Dollars), without any periodical  
increases.

Item two:

Should party two wish to resign, he should submit a written notice, at least three months before the date of leaving service, otherwise the salary pay of the balance of the notice period is to be deducted from his salary. Same rule applies too, if he quits from his service, without any reasonable excuse which might have caused the termination of his service.

Item Three:

The service of party two is considered from 3/1/1981 until 12/31/1983, his end of service compensation, including vacation pay at his salary rate on 12/31/1983, should be settled on the basis of his salary.

Item Four:

Party two is entitled to a yearly vacation of 45 days.

Item Five:

The provisions of Local Employees system



at the Representative Missions of the United Arab Emirates applies regarding other terms of employment which are not included in this agreement and do not conflict with it.

Item Six:

This agreement goes into effect as of 1/1/1984 and is issued in four copies one for party two.

Party one  
(sgnd)

Party two  
(sgnd)

Appendix D

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X

AHMED SROUR,

Plaintiff,

MOTION

- against -

86 Civ. 3319 (WK)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

Defendant.

-----X

Motion by: United Arab Emirates  
(defendant)

Return Date: Friday July 25, 1986  
at 2 p.m. before  
Judge Knapp, U.S.  
District Court,  
Southern District of  
New York, Courtroom  
619.

Relief Requested: Dismissal of  
Complaint under  
Foreign Sovereign  
Immunity Act and  
Diplomatic Immunity  
Act.

Supporting Papers: Attorney's  
Affirmation dated  
June 25, 1986.  
Complaint  
Memorandum of Law,  
and other grounds.

Answering papers  
shall be served 5  
days before the  
Return Date.

Dated: New York, New York  
June 25, 1986

/s/  
OMAR Z. GHOBASHY  
Attorney for  
Defendant  
135 West 50th St.  
No. 1840  
New York, NY 10020  
(212) 757-1770

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X

AHMED SROUR,

Plaintiff,

AFFIRMATION

- against -

86 Civ. 3319 (WK)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

Defendant.

-----X

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK

OMAR Z. GHOBASHY, an attorney  
admitted to practice before this court,  
affirms:

1. I am attorney for  
defendant.

2. I am fully familiar with  
facts herein.

3. I am making this  
affirmation in suport of motion to  
dismiss this action.

4. This Court does not have  
jurisdiction over defendant.

5. The action is based on

alleged contract between the Permanent Mission of United Arab Emirates to United Nations and plaintiff, a former member of this Mission. To circumvent the law, this action is not brought against the Real Party in interest, U.A.E. Mission to U.N. because the Mission is not amenable to suit because of Diplomatic Immunity under United Nations Headquarters Agreement, Treaties and laws of U.S.A. The theory of plaintiff that a Diplomatic Mission is an agent of a sovereign State and can be sued under Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act has long been rejected by the Courts. Accordingly, since this action is based on a contract between a U.N. Mission, enjoying diplomatic immunity and one of its employee, it should be dismissed, notwithstanding that the UN Mission is not named as party defendant but the Sovereign State U.A.E. is named as defendant.

6. This action is barred by F.S.I.A. (Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act). It is not within the exceptions listed in the Act regarding commercial activities. A U.N. Mission is specifically and definitely considered by the courts to be a diplomatic entity exempted from suit in U.S.A. The State of U.A.E. by conducting diplomatic activities. Thus this action under F.S.I.A. is not maintainable and should be dismissed.

7. The complaint and cover sheet alleges that plaintiff is a resident of New York. The complaint must allege that plaintiff is a citizen of New York. It cannot so allege as plaintiff is not a citizen of U.S.A. Since it is clear that there is no diversity of citizenship this court lacks jurisdiction. There is no diversity in action by alien against alien or foreign

State. As the cover sheet shows, this is a contract action, and accordingly diversity must exist. There is no Federal Statute under which plaintiff refers to commence this action. Even if this is a tort action, and although it appears that no tort is committed under New York Law which is to be applied by the court, or any U.S. Law, still diversity of citizenship must exist. For this reason the action should be dismissed.

WHEREFORE, it is requested that this action be dismissed with cost, reasonable attorney's fees, and sactions for these reasons:

1. Diplomatic Immunity of the real party in interest, United Arab Emirates Mission to U.N.

2. Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act.

3. No diversity of

citizenship.

A Memorandum of Law is filed.

Dated: New York, New York, June 25, 1986  
/s/

---

OMAR Z. GHOBASHY  
Attorney for  
Defendant  
135 West 50th Street  
No. 1840  
New York, NY 10020  
(212) 757-1770



Appendix E

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
-----X

AHMED SROUR,

Plaintiff,

AFFIRMATION

- against -

86 Civ. 3319 (WK)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

Defendant.

-----X

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK

OMAR Z. GHOBASHY, an attorney  
admitted to practice before this court,  
affirms:

1. This is in support of  
Motion to dismiss the action returnable  
7/25/86 at 2:00 p.m. by defendants.

2. I am informed by U.S.  
Department of State that they will  
communicate directly with the Court  
suggesting dismissal of action on these  
grounds:

(a) Defective service.

(b) U.A.E. Mission is an indispensable party and immuned from suit.

(c) It is in interest of diplomatic relations that action be dismissed. I was requested to submit an affirmation to that effect.

WHEREFORE, defendant's motion to dismiss the action should be in all respects granted with costs, reasonable attorney's fees and sanctions for bringing a frivolous action, knowing that the party was not properly sued and is not subject to suit in USA.

Dated: New York, New York  
July 9, 1986

/s/  
\_\_\_\_\_  
OMAR Z. GHOBASHY  
Attorney for  
Defendant  
135 West 50th Street  
No. 1840  
New York, NY 10020  
(212) 757-1770

Appendix F

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X  
AHMED SROUR,

Plaintiff,

- against -

AFFIRMATION AND  
MEMORANDUM IN  
RESPONSE

86 Civ. 3319 (WK)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

Defendant.  
-----X

I, Michele Forzley, Esq.,  
counsel to Plaintiff, do hereby make this  
affirmation under the pains and penalties  
of perjury.

1. This affirmation and  
memorandum are submitted in opposition to  
Defendant's motion returnable July 25,  
1986.

2. The motion of Defendant  
should be denied entirely as meritless,  
dilatory and totally unfounded under the  
facts and applicable law. Further, the

costs and fees incurred by Plaintiff as a result of defending this motion, should be assessed against Defendant and its counsel, as sanctions pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES IS SUBJECT TO  
THE JURISDICTIONS OF THIS COURT

3. Not only is the sovereign state, the United Arab Emirates the proper party, it is also subject to suit within the United States in an action such as the one at bar.

4. The case at bar is based upon a simple commercial activity carried on within the United States by the Defendant foreign state, which activity is clearly the kind of activity subject to suit pursuant to 28 U.S.C.A. § 1605(a)(2). The activity is the hiring, employing and wrongful firing of Plaintiff. Plaintiff was a local employee as defined in the Local

Employees System Act, which was specifically made a part of the Contract between Plaintiff and Defendant. Therein at Article 1/3, attached as Exhibit A, it is clear that the title "local employee" includes many kinds of employment from "Drivers" to "Translators". Plaintiff's Contract refers to him as a local employee with the title Researcher.

5. Under all the tests for determining whether the basis for a suit is commercial, there can be no conclusion other than that the matter at bar is commercial. Since hiring, employing and wrongful firing are activities that can be engaged in by both private parties and sovereigns and these are the transactions complained of by Plaintiff, the basis for the suit is commercial and Defendant is not immune International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers v. OPEC, (D.C. Cal. 1979), 477 F.Supp. 553, aff'd

649 F.2d 1354, cert. den. 102 S. Ct.

1036, 454 U.S. 1163, 71 L.Ed. 319.

6. In order for the acts of a sovereign to be "immune" from suit, the acts must be of a public nature or those truly governmental acts McDonnell Douglas Corp. v. Islamic Republic of Iran, (CA 8 Mo. 1985), 758 F.2d 341, Verlinden B.V. v. Central Bank of Nigeria, (N.Y. 1983), 103 S. Ct. 1962, 461 U.S. 480, 76 L.Ed.2d 81. There can be no question, but that the hiring, employing and firing of a person are not public nor governmental acts. Since sovereign immunity is the exception and not the rule, the Court is constrained to take a puristic look at the substance of the lawsuit to determine the issue of whether the transaction complained of is commercial or governmental. Thus, only the nature of the activity giving rise to the claim must be considered and not the purpose of

the challenged conduct. As long as the requisite relation to the United States is present (not in issue here) the district court has subject matter jurisdiction Texas Trading & Mill Corp. v. Federal Republic of Nigeria, (CA. N.Y. 1981), 647 F.2d. 300, cert. den. 102 S.Ct. 1012, 454 U.S. 1148, 71 L.Ed. 301.

7. Defendant United Arab Emirates is also subject to suit in the United States for the tortious acts of and omissions of officials and employees of Defendant pursuant to 28 USC 1605(a)(5) which acts and omissions are specifically enumerated in the complaint at bar Persinger v. Islamic Republic of Iran, 1984, 729 F.2d 835, 234 U.S. App. D.C. 349, cert. den. 105 S.Ct. 247.

8. Defendant has failed to show why the case at bar does not contemplate commercial activity. Defendant merely claims that it is

exempt; this however is inadequate to meet the burden of proof imposed on the party claiming immunity Transamerican SS. v. C.N.A.N., (CA. Texas, 1984), 730 F.2d 195. Accordingly, Defendant's motion should be denied.

THE U.A.E. IS THE ONLY PROPER PARTY

9. Defendant United Arab Emirates is the proper party and the only party. The Contract between Plaintiff and Defendant (attached to the complaint as Exhibit A) clearly recites that there are two parties; Plaintiff and Defendant; Ahmed Srour and the state of the United Arab Emirates.

10. The Permanent Mission in New York is the physical embodiment of the Defendant state just as a corporate officer is the corporeal embodiment of a corporation. When the Defendant, the State of the United Arab Emirates,



decided to enter into the Contract, the Permanent Mission as the embodiment of the Defendant was directed in a cover letter by the Defendant to execute the Contract with Plaintiff. The cover letter is attached with the Contract and is part of Exhibit A to the Complaint.

When Plaintiff was wrongfully terminated, the act was done by the State of the United Arab Emirates. Exhibit B is the termination memorandum and is executed by the State and shows that the Defendant terminated Plaintiff.

THE MISSION IN NEW YORK  
IS THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

11. The Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, 28 U.S.C.A. §1603 states quite clearly that a foreign state includes an agency or instrumentality of the foreign state and its missions. Indeed, it is hard to imagine a purer embodiment of a foreign state than that

state's Permanent Mission to the United Nations Gray v. Permanent Mission of People's Republic of the Congo (D.C.N.Y. 1978), 443 F. Supp. 816, aff'd 580 F.2d 1044. Thus, Defendant's argument that somehow the mission of Defendant is the proper party is without merit as is the premise that the mission is somehow separate and distinct from the government of the United Arab Emirates. It is one and the same as the government.

THE U.N. HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT  
DOES NOT APPLY

12. The U.N. Headquarters Agreement does not support Defendant's argument. It simply has no applicability to the case at bar.

DEFENDANT'S JULY 9TH AFFIRMATION

13. On or about July 9, 1986, Defendant and its counsel submitted an affirmation so grossly incorrect and misleading that sanctions should be

imposed against counsel and a copy of the affirmation referred to the Disciplinary Committee for inquiry into possible ethical violations.

14. The undersigned personally investigated the statements made in counsel's affirmation with the Department of State to determine their veracity. The State Department did not request that Mr. Ghobashy submit the affirmation. The position of the State Department contained in their letter to the Clerk of Court, dated July 8, 1986, is that service upon the U.A.E. Mission in New York is improper. Since service was not made upon the U.A.E. Mission in New York, the position of the Department of State is of academic use only.

#### DIVERSITY IS NOT AN ISSUE

15. Plaintiff will not discuss the issue of diversity as no allegation of diversity is made in the complaint.

The undersigned thanks Defendant's counsel for his illuminating discussion however on the subject.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that Defendant's motion be dismissed in its entirety and that sanctions be imposed against Defendant and its counsel for their frivolous and meritless motion.

Respectfully,

/s/

Michele Forzley  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
125 Cedar Street  
New York, NY 10006  
(212) 406-4973

Dated: July 17, 1986

EXHIBIT "A"

In the name of God the merciful, the  
beneficent

(Emblem of the United Arab Emirates)

THE STATE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

LOCAL EMPLOYEES SYSTEM FOR DIPLOMATIC  
MISSIONS ABROAD OF THE UNITED  
ARAB EMIRATES (1983)

Financial & Administrative Dept.  
(Personnel Dept.)

Ministerial Decree No. (1) 1983  
To issue Local Employees System for  
the Diplomatic Missions, abroad the  
state of the United Arab Emirates  
Year (1983)

Ministry of the State of Foreign Affairs.

After reviewing the Unification law No.

1/1972, regarding the Ministerial

specializations and the Ministries

qualifications and the laws amending it,

And the Unification law No. 3/1972

regulating the Diplomatic and the

Consular Corps system.

And the Unification law No. 2/1972,

regulating the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs.

And the Unification Law No. 1/1978,

concerning the index of salaries,

allowances to employees of the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs.

And the Ministry of Foreign Affairs'

decision about the system of local

employees at the Mission of the State of  
UAE.

2 - That his service was not ended by  
reprimand dismissal or by absence or  
delaying in return after vacation.

STATE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

INDEX

Subject

Decree text of systems

1- System Explanations

2- Budget

3- List of grades and salaries

4- Recruiting

- General rules

- Foreign employees

- with special contracts

- Temporary recruiting

- different rules (in recruity)

5- Test period

6- Periodic allowances

7- Incentive allowances

9- Promotions

10- Over-time allowances

11- Additional allowances

12- Medical treatment



13- Evaluating employees performance

14- Vacations

15- Assigning for official mission

16- Employees duties

## THE SYSTEM DEFINITION

### ARTICLE 1/1

This system is called the system of local employees at the mission of the state of the United Arab Emirates year 1983.

### ARTICLE 1/2

This system includes the basis of recruiting local employees for the missions of the state of the United Arab Emirates, and regulate their employment relationship with the missions.

### ARTICLE 1/3

In applying this system, the following terms donate the meaning next to them.

The Ministry : Ministry of foreign affairs

Head Office : The head office at the ministry of foreign affairs (center)

Under Secretary : The Under Secretary of state of Foreign Affairs, or who replaces him in his absence.

The mission : Any mission of the Diplomatic Missions of the state of the United Arab Emirates abroad/  
Embassy/Permenant mission/ Consulate.

Head of Mission : Ambassador/Head of mission/Consulate

General/ acting  
Ambassador or the  
head of the permanent  
mission, or Consul  
General.

The system : The local employees system

The local employee : Any person employed  
locally for work at  
the mission on its  
separate budget.

The definition covers the following  
categories:

- Administrative employees, translators  
and clerks.
- Employees appointed by the consulate or  
Administrative positions by special  
contracts.
- General service employees, Messengers,  
Drivers, Guards, cooks, waiters,  
gardeners, servants, cleaning personnel  
and any such others employed in such  
capacity.

### Employment Budget

#### Article 2/1

Each Mission has a special annual  
employment budget, which indicates the  
following in particular -

- Definite employment
- Vacant employment
- Title and grade of each employee and  
salary.

### Article 2/2

The number of employees in each grade should not exceed the limited number of positions in the Missions's budget.

### Article 2/3

The head of Mission may, after the Minister's approval, transfer the budget allocated for a special position to another budget according to the following :

2/3/1

The reason of transfer is for the best interest of work.

EXHIBIT B

State of the United Arab Emirates  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Finance and Administration Dept.  
(Personnel Section)

No. 7/6/6/ - 2339

Date 8/14/1985 - 11/28/1405

Ministry of Finance and Industry

Best Regards:

Subject: Subjective measures regarding  
local employees in  
representative

Mission (our mission in New  
York)

Name	Post	Type of measure	No. of measure	Date of Measure
Ahmad Srour	Local Dismissal Researcher		11/85	7/11/85

A copy of the measure is attached

notes

Distribution  
Ministry of Finance  
and Industry

Signed  
Under Secretary  
of the Foreign  
Ministry

Our Mission  
Personnel Section  
Accounting Dept.

THE ARABIC TRANSLATIONS OF THESE  
DOCUMENTS ARE INTENTIONALLY OMITTED

Appendix G

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X

AHMED SROUR,

Plaintiff,

REPLY AFFIRMATION

- against -

86 Civ. 3319 (WK)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,

Defendant.

-----X

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK

Omar Z. Ghobashy, an attorney  
admitted to practice law before U. S.  
District courts in the State of New York,  
2nd and 3rd Circuits and U.S. Supreme  
Court affirms:

1. I am attorney for  
defendant.
2. I am making this  
affirmation in Reply to plaintiff's  
answering papers.
3. The answering papers show

failure to properly respond to legal issues presented in the Motion. It also illustrates lack of familiarity of attorney for plaintiff with the law and the interpretation of the Court of Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act (FSIA) and that the Court lacks jurisdiction over the person or subject matter.

4. It is evident that despite the legal points raised, attorney for plaintiff persists in her intentional deception and therefore sanctions should be applied against her and her clients.

5. Totally not responded to is the fraudulent and intentionally raised question of jurisdiction of the Court in which plaintiff's attorney stated that plaintiff is resident of New York. The required jurisdictional statement is that the plaintiff is a "citizen" of New York, being a citizen of U.S.A., he is an alien, attempting to sue another alien a

foreign sovereign, under diversity of citizenship. That they cannot do, and on this ground alone, the action is dismissed.

6. Nor the issue of service is responded to. It appears that service was not made in accordance with Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act and accordingly this Court lacks jurisdiction on this ground.

7. Annexed to responsive papers is unauthenticated and uncertified papers purported to be some official papers. The paper we received is unsigned, incomplete and not attached to any Arabic text.

8. The alleged text refers to local employees attached to Diplomatic Missions. Thus the Mission is the employer and it is an indispensable party. While attorney for plaintiff states that Diplomatic Immunity does not



apply, and she does not know Diplomatic Immunity. She deliberately and fraudulently evaded the issue by suing the wrong party to avoid the defense of Diplomatic Immunity.

9. Attorney for plaintiff is confused. A diplomat is not an agent of his Government in the sense that his Government waived his immunity for his acts. A diplomatic mission is a separate entity and is entitled to Diplomatic Immunity as a Mission. It carries diplomatic activities in U.S.A. and these activities are protected. A diplomat is immuned from suit even in his personal affairs, such as rent, purchase, debts. Plaintiff did not cite any authority to support her contention. Cases cited support defendant's position.

10. It is undisputed that plaintiff is a member of U.A.E. Mission to U.N. Annexed, as Exhibit "A" is list

of Delegation to General Assembly. Mr. Ahmed Srour's name appears. Exhibit "B" shows names of representatives to, Ad Hoc Committee including "plaintiff". Exhibit "C" a list of delegates to U.N. Children Fund. Srour's name as adviser appears. Exhibit "D" is list of representatives. Plaintiff Srour appears. Exhibit "E" is list of UNICEF, plaintiff's name appears. Exhibit "F" is a list of representative, plaintiff's name appears. Exhibit "G" official U.N. list of diplomats accredited to U.N. Plaintiff's name is included. Exhibit "H" Document U.N. General Assembly. Srour's name appears as representative and summary of his statement on behalf of U.A.E. appears. Exhibit "I" same as above.

11. Finally attached is a Memorandum to U.S. Mission to U.N. by U.A.E. Mission.

It is clear to the Court that

this is an action by a diplomat against his Head of Mission to U.N. on a dispute relating to his assignment. That action cannot be maintained because of Diplomatic Immunity, Sovereign Immunity, and lack of jurisdiction. There is nothing in 28 U.S.C. 1330 that permits an action between two diplomats or two members of a mission to the U.N.

A Memorandum of Law is attached.

WHEREFORE, the Motion of defendant should be granted in its entirety with sanctions and costs against plaintiff and his attorney and reasonable attorney's fees.

Dated: New York, New York  
July 22, 1986

/s/  
Omar Z. Ghobashy  
Attorney for Defendant  
135 West 50th Street  
Suite 1840  
New York, NY 10020  
Tel: (212) 757-1770

EXHIBITS INTENTIONALLY OMITTED

